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(4)

BULLETIN OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS STATISTICS  
YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1946

This survey issued by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson) covers the first year's operations of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act, 1944, which came into operation on 1st July, 1945.

The Act provides for the payment of benefit to persons whose normal earnings have been interrupted through unemployment or temporary incapacity. The Act also provides a third class of benefit - designated Special Benefit - which gives a measure of assistance to those persons who, on account of some special circumstance, cannot comply with the statutory requirements relating to unemployment or sickness benefit, and who are prevented from earning a livelihood and are in need.

The rate of benefit per week is 25 shillings for a married person or an unmarried adult, plus 20 shillings for a dependent spouse and 5 shillings if the claimant has the custody, care and control of one or more children under 16 years of age. Thus the maximum benefit is £2.10s. per week. For unmarried juveniles the rate of benefit is 5 shillings if under 18 years and 20 shillings if 18 and under 21 years.

A claimant is allowed a certain income without the rate of benefit being affected. Beyond this allowable amount the rate is reduced by the amount of the excess income.

The numbers of recipients of benefit do not embrace the total unemployment and sickness in the community. Unemployment or sickness of less than seven days duration is not covered due to the provision in the Act of a "waiting period" of this length of time during which no benefit is payable. Permanent incapacity is not included as this is covered by the Invalid and Old Age Pensions Act. The application of the "means test" excludes another group from benefit.

The number of "persons on benefit" in this summary relates to principal beneficiaries who would normally be breadwinners. Dependents of such beneficiaries are not included.

#### 1. GENERAL

The information contained in this bulletin has been compiled from data made available by the Department of Social Services.

Advice is received in respect of each admission to benefit followed by a further advice when each benefit is finally discontinued.

The tabulations summarized below are compiled from advices received in this Bureau from the inception of the Act to 27th July, 1946, excluding those which relate to benefits commencing after 30th June, 1946. Thus four weeks were allowed to enable delayed advices to reach this Bureau in time for inclusion in the tabulations. This has resulted in admissions to benefit being practically complete. The position with regard to discontinuances is not so satisfactory as in many cases there is a longer interval between the actual date of cessation of benefit and the date the advice reaches this Bureau. Thus, in some instances, advice of benefits discontinued towards the close of the year did not reach this Bureau in time for inclusion in the tabulations. This has resulted in benefits current at the end of the year being overstated, and discontinuances during the year being understated to the same extent.

## 2. SUMMARY - CLAIMS ADMITTED, EXITS, PERSONS ON BENEFIT

During the year ended June, 1946, 114,561 claims were admitted comprising 75,834 unemployment, 38,445 sickness and 282 special benefits, whilst 98,038 (66,945 unemployment, 30,941 sickness and 152 special) of these benefits were discontinued, leaving 16,523 (8,889 unemployment, 7,504 sickness and 130 special) benefits in force at the end of June, 1946.

The total number of benefits granted and discontinued during the year ended June, 1946 and beneficiaries remaining on benefit at 30th June, 1946, in each class of benefit, is shown in the following table:-

### CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., FROM 1ST JULY, 1945 TO 30TH JUNE, 1946 : AUSTRALIA

| Class of Benefit | Claims admitted during year |               |                | Exits during year |               |               | On benefit at 30th June, 1946 |              |               |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
|                  | Males                       | Females       | Persons        | Males             | Females       | Persons       | Males                         | Females      | Persons       |
| Unemployment     | 63,622                      | 12,212        | 75,834         | 55,171            | 11,774        | 66,945        | 8,451                         | 438          | 8,889         |
| Sickness ..      | 31,974                      | 6,471         | 38,445         | 25,847            | 5,094         | 30,941        | 6,127                         | 1,377        | 7,504         |
| Special ..       | 125                         | 157           | 282            | 105               | 47            | 152           | 20                            | 110          | 130           |
| <u>Total:</u>    | <u>95,721</u>               | <u>18,840</u> | <u>114,561</u> | <u>81,123</u>     | <u>16,915</u> | <u>98,038</u> | <u>14,598</u>                 | <u>1,925</u> | <u>16,523</u> |

### 3. BENEFITS PAID

(i) All Benefits : State totals and averages. During the year ended June 1946, £1,055,212 was paid in benefits (£525,070 Unemployment, £525,869 Sickness and £4,273 Special). Since October, 1945, by which time the provisions of the Act had probably become reasonably widely known, the amount paid out in sickness benefits has fluctuated between £50,000 to £60,000 per month. Unemployment benefits reached their peak during January and February, 1946, when over £300,000 was paid in benefits mainly as a result of power rationing in New South Wales and South Australia. During those two months approximately £215,000 was paid in New South Wales and £60,000 in South Australia. Seasonal unemployment in the sugar and meat industries together with industrial troubles in the latter industry accounted for most of the increase in payments in Queensland during the latter half of the year. The increase in Western Australia during the last two months was mainly due to power rationing caused by breakdown of power plant.

The following table shows the benefits paid in respect of each class of benefit in each State and the average amount of benefit paid per person admitted to each class of benefit during the year ended June, 1946:-

### BENEFITS PAID AND AVERAGE PER PERSON ADMITTED DURING 1945-46 : STATES

| State               | Unemployment   |                    | Sickness       |                    | Special      |                    | Total            |                    |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
|                     | Amount         | Average per person | Amount         | Average per person | Amount       | Average Per Person | Amount           | Average per Person |
| N.S.W. (a)          | £. 275,205     | £. 5.7             | £. 198,943     | £. 14.1            | £. 1,068     | £. 8.6             | £. 475,216       | £. 7.6             |
| Victoria ..         | 28,234         | 10.8               | 139,267        | 14.2               | 912          | 20.3               | 168,413          | 13.5               |
| Queensland ..       | 108,138        | 11.1               | 76,306         | 14.3               | 624          | 18.4               | 185,068          | 12.3               |
| South Australia (b) | 73,226         | 6.7                | 53,076         | 13.1               | 206          | 10.8               | 126,508          | 8.4                |
| Western Australia   | 36,440         | 9.9                | 34,818         | 10.3               | 654          | 27.2               | 71,912           | 10.2               |
| Tasmania ..         | 3,827          | 12.4               | 23,459         | 13.0               | 809          | 22.5               | 28,095           | 13.1               |
| <u>TOTAL:</u>       | <u>525,070</u> | <u>6.9</u>         | <u>525,869</u> | <u>13.7</u>        | <u>4,273</u> | <u>15.2</u>        | <u>1,055,212</u> | <u>9.2</u>         |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) Unemployment Benefits: Monthly State Totals. The amounts paid in employment benefit in each State during each month of the year ended June, 1946, were as follows:-

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS PAID DURING EACH MONTH OF 1945-46 : STATES

| Month         | New South Wales (a) | Victoria      | Queens-land    | South Aust. (a) | Western Australia | Tasmania     | Common-wealth  |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 5 -           | £.                  | £.            | £.             | £.              | £.                | £.           | £.             |
| uly           | 51                  | 99            | 8              | 23              | 38                | 13           | 232            |
| ugust         | 728                 | 668           | 77             | 219             | 273               | 43           | 2,008          |
| September     | 877                 | 656           | 428            | 175             | 306               | 71           | 2,513          |
| ctober        | 1,514               | 770           | 612            | 665             | 494               | 184          | 4,239          |
| ovember       | 2,897               | 1,169         | 1,285          | 876             | 807               | 245          | 7,279          |
| ecember       | 12,203              | 1,145         | 1,684          | 1,610           | 574               | 203          | 17,419         |
| 6 -           |                     |               |                |                 |                   |              |                |
| anuary        | 132,872             | 5,118         | 5,893          | 52,140          | 1,910             | 573          | 198,506        |
| ebbruary      | 82,086              | 3,727         | 12,809         | 7,543           | 2,987             | 115          | 109,267        |
| arch          | 9,422               | 3,222         | 21,286         | 2,868           | 4,986             | 546          | 42,330         |
| pril          | 9,998               | 3,217         | 12,894         | 1,944           | 5,863             | 589          | 34,505         |
| ay            | 13,215              | 3,801         | 22,068         | 2,702           | 8,921             | 724          | 51,431         |
| une           | 9,342               | 4,642         | 29,094         | 2,461           | 9,281             | 521          | 54,961         |
| <b>Total:</b> | <b>275,205</b>      | <b>28,234</b> | <b>108,138</b> | <b>73,226</b>   | <b>36,440</b>     | <b>3,827</b> | <b>525,070</b> |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory.

4. CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING YEAR

(See also 7 and 8)

(i) Total Persons, State Totals. The following table shows the number of persons in each State admitted to benefit during the year ended June, 1946:-

NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO BENEFIT DURING 1945-46 : STATES

| State               | Unemployment  |               | Sickness      |              | Special    |            | Total         |               |                |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
|                     | Males         | Females       | Males         | Females      | Males      | Females    | Males         | Females       | Persons        |
| New South Wales (a) | 38,451        | 10,169        | 11,665        | 2,408        | 78         | 46         | 50,194        | 12,623        | 62,817         |
| Victoria            | 2,549         | 61            | 7,987         | 1,841        | 8          | 37         | 10,544        | 1,939         | 12,483         |
| Queensland          | 9,367         | 356           | 4,568         | 755          | 14         | 20         | 13,949        | 1,131         | 15,080         |
| South Australia (b) | 9,420         | 1,485         | 3,482         | 569          | 12         | 7          | 12,914        | 2,061         | 14,975         |
| Western Australia   | 3,531         | 136           | 2,744         | 623          | 11         | 13         | 6,286         | 772           | 7,058          |
| Tasmania            | 304           | 5             | 1,528         | 275          | 2          | 34         | 1,834         | 314           | 2,148          |
| <b>Total:</b>       | <b>63,622</b> | <b>12,212</b> | <b>31,974</b> | <b>6,471</b> | <b>125</b> | <b>157</b> | <b>95,721</b> | <b>18,840</b> | <b>114,561</b> |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) Total Persons, Classification of Beneficiaries by Age and Dependents.

the following table claimants admitted to benefit during the year ended June, 1946, have been classified according to type of claimant as determined by the maximum benefit appropriate to the age and conjugal condition of the beneficiary and the number of dependents in respect of whom the beneficiary was entitled to benefit:-

CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING 1945-46 : CLASSIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES : AUSTRALIA

| Type of Claimant                             | Maximum rate per week | Unemployment  |               | Sickness      |              | Total (a)     |               |                |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
|  |                       | Males         | Females       | Males         | Females      | Males         | Females       | Persons        |
| Under 18 years, unmarried with no dependants | 15                    | 2,239         | 2,169         | 1,139         | 836          | 3,379         | 3,015         | 6,394          |
| with dependent child                         | 20                    | -             | 4             | 1             | 3            | 1             | 7             | 8              |
| 21 years, unmarried with no dependants       | 20                    | 3,260         | 3,535         | 1,745         | 1,511        | 5,005         | 5,056         | 10,061         |
| with dependent child                         | 25                    | 8             | 18            | 1             | 24           | 9             | 43            | 52             |
| or 21 years, unmarried with no dependants    | 25                    | 14,291        | 5,360         | 5,840         | 3,266        | 20,161        | 8,751         | 28,912         |
| with dependent child                         | 30                    | 571           | 272           | 318           | 218          | 889           | 494           | 1,383          |
| 21 years ago, married with no dependants     | 25                    | 1,418         | 492           | 1,187         | 374          | 2,614         | 870           | 3,484          |
| with dependent spouse                        | 45                    | 14,480        | 33            | 7,790         | 14           | 22,340        | 47            | 22,387         |
| with dependent spouse and child              | 50                    | 27,045        | 27            | 13,524        | 19           | 40,584        | 46            | 40,630         |
| with dependent child (no dependent spouse)   | 30                    | 310           | 302           | 429           | 206          | 739           | 511           | 1,250          |
| <b>Total:</b>                                | -                     | <b>63,622</b> | <b>12,212</b> | <b>31,974</b> | <b>6,471</b> | <b>95,721</b> | <b>18,840</b> | <b>114,561</b> |

(a) Includes Special Bonofits (125 males, 157 females, 282 persons)

NOTE: Unmarried includes widowed and divorced.

The preceding table shows the maximum rate applicable to each type of beneficiary. The actual benefit paid was less in many cases due to the application of a "means test" as to income.

Forty three per cent. of the beneficiaries did not receive any additional benefit in respect of dependants while 35 per cent. received additional benefits in respect of dependent spouse and child, 20 per cent. in respect of dependent spouse only and 2 per cent. in respect of dependent child only.

Fifty nine per cent. of the beneficiaries were married - 69 per cent. of males, and 8 per cent. of females.

### 5. BENEFITS DISCONTINUED

(i) Duration. The number of weeks during which benefit was paid for each of the 98,038 cases of benefit discontinued during the year ended June, 1946, is shown below:-

#### DURATION OF BENEFITS DISCONTINUED DURING 1945-46 : AUSTRALIA

| Duration of Benefit | Unemployment  |               |               | Sickness      |              |               | Total (a)     |               |               |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                     | Males         | Females       | Persons       | Males         | Females      | Persons       | Males         | Females       | Persons       |
| <u>Weeks</u>        |               |               |               |               |              |               |               |               |               |
| Less than 1         | 5,798         | 1,501         | 7,299         | 2,120         | 292          | 2,412         | 7,924         | 1,793         | 9,717         |
| 1 and under 2       | 7,976         | 2,291         | 10,267        | 3,968         | 586          | 4,554         | 11,954        | 2,878         | 14,832        |
| 2 and under 3       | 9,891         | 3,344         | 13,235        | 3,290         | 588          | 3,878         | 13,200        | 3,937         | 17,137        |
| 3 and under 4       | 17,401        | 3,650         | 21,051        | 2,843         | 566          | 3,409         | 20,269        | 4,218         | 24,487        |
| 4 and under 5       | 5,897         | 638           | 6,535         | 2,286         | 470          | 2,756         | 8,195         | 1,111         | 9,306         |
| 5 and under 9       | 5,418         | 234           | 5,652         | 5,343         | 1,129        | 6,472         | 10,784        | 1,369         | 12,153        |
| 9 and under 13      | 1,611         | 63            | 1,674         | 2,464         | 567          | 3,031         | 4,079         | 635           | 4,714         |
| 13 and under 17     | 634           | 22            | 656           | 1,277         | 332          | 1,609         | 1,915         | 359           | 2,274         |
| 17 and under 21     | 294           | 15            | 309           | 733           | 168          | 901           | 1,028         | 190           | 1,218         |
| 21 and under 25     | 132           | 6             | 138           | 471           | 102          | 573           | 603           | 111           | 714           |
| 25 and over         | 119           | 10            | 129           | 1,052         | 294          | 1,346         | 1,172         | 314           | 1,486         |
| <b>Total:</b>       | <b>55,171</b> | <b>11,774</b> | <b>66,945</b> | <b>25,847</b> | <b>5,094</b> | <b>30,941</b> | <b>81,123</b> | <b>16,915</b> | <b>98,038</b> |

(a) Includes Special Benefits (105 males, 47 females, 152 persons).

Of the 98,038 benefits discontinued during the first year's operations of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act, 22,559 persons (or 23 per cent.) were in receipt of benefit for five weeks and over, 31,865 (or 33 per cent.) for four weeks and over, 56,352 (or 57 per cent.) for three weeks and over, 73,489 (or 75 per cent.) for two weeks and over, 88,321 (or 90 per cent.) for one week and over, whilst 9,717 (or 10 per cent.) received benefit for less than one week.

The average duration of the 30,941 sickness benefits discontinued was longer than that of the 66,945 unemployment benefits discontinued, being 6.5 as compared with 3.0 weeks for unemployment.

Comparative figures for each State are shown in the following table:-

#### AVERAGE DURATION OF BENEFITS DISCONTINUED DURING 1945-46 : STATES

| Class of Benefit          | Average duration (in weeks) |            |            |                 |                   |            |              |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
|                           | New South Wales             | Victoria   | Queensland | South Australia | Western Australia | Tasmania   | Commonwealth |
| Unemployment              | 2.6                         | 4.7        | 4.8        | 3.3             | 4.0               | 4.9        | 3.0          |
| Sickness ..               | 6.6                         | 7.0        | 6.1        | 6.1             | 5.4               | 6.3        | 6.5          |
| Special ..                | 5.6                         | 12.3       | 8.0        | 7.3             | 6.4               | 18.7       | 7.7          |
| <b>Total all Classes:</b> | <b>3.4</b>                  | <b>6.6</b> | <b>5.4</b> | <b>3.9</b>      | <b>4.9</b>        | <b>6.2</b> | <b>4.1</b>   |

The average duration of unemployment benefits in New South Wales and South Australia was much lower than in the other States, due to the large numbers who were admitted to benefit for a comparatively short period in those two States due to power rationing.

(ii) Reasons for Cessation. The reasons for terminating the 98,038 cases of benefits discontinued during the year ended June, 1946 are shown hereunder:-

BENEFITS DISCONTINUED DURING 1945-46 - REASON FOR CESSATION : AUSTRALIA

| Reason for Cessation                                 | Unemployment  |               | Sickness      |              | Total (a)     |               |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | Males         | Females       | Males         | Females      | Males         | Females       | Total         |
| Employment secured or resumed ..                     | 43,551        | 10,033        | 15,222        | 2,795        | 58,854        | 12,845        | 71,699        |
| Incapacity terminated ..                             | -             | -             | 7,069         | 1,636        | 7,071         | 1,636         | 8,707         |
| Failure to report ..                                 | 10,007        | 1,613         | 586           | 225          | 10,598        | 1,841         | 12,439        |
| Failure to comply with a direction under the Act ..  | 152           | 12            | 21            | 7            | 173           | 19            | 192           |
| Transfer to another benefit covered by the Act ..    | 609           | 69            | 473           | 55           | 1,087         | 127           | 1,214         |
| Statutory age limit reached (b) ..                   | 66            | -             | 79            | 8            | 150           | 8             | 158           |
| Permanent incapacity (c) ..                          | 110           | 3             | 1,017         | 145          | 1,130         | 149           | 1,279         |
| Compensation and other similar payments ..           | 16            | -             | 192           | 10           | 208           | 10            | 218           |
| Transfer to other pensions not covered by the Act .. | 199           | 8             | 174           | 21           | 373           | 31            | 404           |
| Death ..   | 15            | 1             | 561           | 36           | 579           | 38            | 617           |
| Transfer to another State or district ..             | 381           | 17            | 354           | 112          | 735           | 131           | 866           |
| Other ..   | 65            | 18            | 99            | 44           | 165           | 80            | 245           |
| <b>Total:</b>  | <b>55,171</b> | <b>11,774</b> | <b>25,847</b> | <b>5,094</b> | <b>81,123</b> | <b>16,915</b> | <b>98,038</b> |

(a) Includes Special Benefits (105 males, 47 females, 152 persons)

(b) Includes transfer to Old Age Pension. (c) Includes transfer to Invalid Pension.

Of the 66,945 cases of unemployment benefit terminated during the year ended June, 1946, 65,204 (97.4 per cent.) secured employment or failed to report (which in the great majority of cases means that the person has secured employment without advising the Department of Social Services) and 1,076 (1.6 per cent.) transferred to sickness or Special Benefit (mainly Sickness) or to another district.

Of the 30,941 cases of sickness benefit terminated, 27,533 (89 per cent.) recovered from their illness and presumably resumed employment, 1,162 (3.8 per cent.) were classified as permanently incapacitated which in the vast majority of cases means that they were transferred to Invalid Pension, 994 (3.3 per cent.) transferred to Unemployment or Special Benefit (mainly Unemployment) or to another district and 597 (1.9 per cent.) died.

6. PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF JUNE, 1946  
(See also 7 and 8)

(i) Total Persons. (a) Proportion per 10,000 in Employment. The proportion of persons on benefit at 30th June, 1946 to the estimated number of employees in employment is approximately 71 per 10,000 comprising 38 unemployment, 32 sickness and 1 special case per 10,000.

The following table shows the proportions for males and females separately:-

PROPORTION OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 PER 10,000 WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA

| Sex        | Proportion            | Proportion on benefit per 10,000 in employment |          |         |       |
|------------|-----------------------|--|----------|---------|-------|
|            |                       | Unemployment                                   | Sickness | Special | Total |
| Males ..   | per 10,000 males ..   | 51   | 37       | -       | 88    |
| Females .. | per 10,000 females .. | 6  | 21       | 2       | 29    |
| Persons .. | per 10,000 persons .. | 38   | 32       | 1       | 71    |

(ii) Total Persons. (b) State Totals. The number of persons in each State in receipt of benefit at 30th June, 1946, were as follows:-

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 : STATES

| State              | Unemployment |         | Sickness |         | Special |         | Total  |         |         |       |
|--------------------|--------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|-------|
|                    | Males        | Females | Males    | Females | Males   | Females | Males  | Females | Persons |       |
| New South Wales(a) | 1,537        | 128     | 2,287    | 486     | 7       | 29      | 3,831  | 643     | 4,474   |       |
| Victoria           | ..           | 592     | 18       | 1,525   | 424     | 2       | 24     | 2,119   | 466     | 2,585 |
| Queensland         | ..           | 4,026   | 197      | 906     | 165     | 2       | 18     | 4,934   | 380     | 5,314 |
| South Australia(b) | 442          | 7       | 696      | 109     | 2       | 5       | 1,140  | 121     | 1,261   |       |
| Western Australia  | 1,768        | 86      | 457      | 137     | 6       | 9       | 2,231  | 232     | 2,463   |       |
| Tasmania           | ..           | 86      | 2        | 256     | 56      | 1       | 25     | 343     | 83      | 427   |
| Total:             | 8,451        | 438     | 6,127    | 1,377   | 20      | 110     | 14,598 | 1,925   | 16,523  |       |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory.

7. UNEMPLOYMENT - CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING YEAR AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF YEAR

(i) Cause of unemployment. The following table analyses the main reasons for loss of employment as given by the 75,834 persons admitted to unemployment benefit during the year ended June, 1946.

Difficulty has been experienced in classifying causes of unemployment due to the vague reasons given by some beneficiaries.

In an attempt to remedy this a new classification was introduced on 1st July, 1946 and efforts are being made in respect of admissions to benefit after that date, to obtain an adequate reason why each beneficiary became unemployed.

CAUSE OF UNEMPLOYMENT - CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING 1945-46 : AUSTRALIA

| Cause of Unemployment   | Claims admitted during year |         |         |
|---|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
|   | Males                       | Females | Persons |
| <u>Due to discharge or lay-off by employer -</u>                |                             |         |         |
| Power rationing   | ..                          | 37,756  | 11,076  |
| Seasonal work completed   | ..                          | 4,826   | 154     |
| Re-arrangement of staff, replaced by returned service personnel | ..                          | 1,282   | 73      |
| Industrial dispute (other than strikers), lock-out (a)          | ..                          | 1,148   | 122     |
| Inefficiency  | ..                          | 714     | 28      |
| Misconduct  | ..                          | 192     | 7       |
| Other and ill-defined discharges or lay-offs                    | ..                          | 12,961  | 476     |
| Due to employee quitting the job                                | ..                          | 1,232   | 91      |
| Work too heavy, ill health (b)                                  | ..                          | 2,947   | 174     |
| Ex-service personnel not yet returned to work                   | ..                          | 374     | 3       |
| Other and ill-defined causes                                    | ..                          | 190     | 8       |
| Total:  | 63,622                      | 12,212  | 75,834  |

(a) Direct participants in strikes are not eligible for benefit.

(b) It has not been possible to allocate these between discharges and quits.

Of the 75,834 unemployment claims admitted during the year 48,832 (64 per cent.) were due to power restrictions imposed on industry mainly in New South Wales and South Australia during December, 1945 and early January, 1946. In New South Wales 39,195 persons (29,630 males, 9,565 females) gave power rationing as the cause of their unemployment. Corresponding figures for South Australia were 9,051 persons (7,618 males, 1,439 females).

(ii) Lagos. The distribution of unemployment beneficiaries by age groups is shown in the following table:-

GROUPED AGE - UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1946 AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 : AUSTRALIA

| Grouped Age<br>(as at 31st<br>Dec., 1945) | Claims admitted during 1945-46 |         |         | On benefit at 30th June, 1946 |         |         |
|---|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
|   | Males                          | Females | Persons | Males                         | Females | Persons |
| 16-19 years                               | 4,818                          | 4,650   | 9,468   | 489                           | 163     | 652     |
| 20-24 "                                   | 6,270                          | 3,746   | 10,016  | 696                           | 118     | 814     |
| 25-29 "                                   | 8,502                          | 1,279   | 9,781   | 750                           | 59      | 809     |
| 30-34 "                                   | 8,938                          | 816     | 9,754   | 839                           | 25      | 864     |
| 35-39 "                                   | 7,454                          | 563     | 8,017   | 780                           | 20      | 800     |
| 40-44 "                                   | 6,829                          | 384     | 7,213   | 931                           | 17      | 948     |
| 45-49 "                                   | 5,949                          | 352     | 6,301   | 1,021                         | 15      | 1,036   |
| 50-54 "                                   | 5,344                          | 241     | 5,585   | 950                           | 10      | 960     |
| 55-59 "                                   | 5,403                          | 181     | 5,584   | 1,079                         | 11      | 1,090   |
| 60-64 "                                   | 4,115                          | -       | 4,115   | 916                           | -       | 916     |
| Total:                                    | 63,622                         | 12,212  | 75,834  | 8,451                         | 438     | 8,889   |

(iii) Industrial Groups. The distribution, according to main industrial groups of those admitted to unemployment benefit during the year ended June, 1946 and of those in receipt of benefit at 30th June, 1946 was as follows:-

INDUSTRIAL GROUPS - UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1946 AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 : AUSTRALIA

| Industrial Group   | Claims admitted<br>during 1945-46 |         |         | On benefit<br>at 30th June, 1946 |         |         |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
|  | Males                             | Females | Persons | Males                            | Females | Persons |
| Agriculture, Pastoral and Dairying ..                          | 3,372                             | 14      | 3,386   | 924                              | 3       | 927     |
| Other Primary Production ..                                    | 282                               | -       | 282     | 91                               | -       | 91      |
| Coal Mining ..   | 347                               | -       | 347     | 21                               | -       | 21      |
| Other Mining and Quarrying ..                                  | 434                               | 1       | 435     | 158                              | 1       | 159     |
| Factories and Industrial -                                     |                                   |         |         |                                  |         |         |
| Founding, engineering, metal working including shipbuilding .. | 24,384                            | 2,232   | 26,616  | 1,059                            | 23      | 1,082   |
| Vehicles, including aircraft ..                                | 4,327                             | 188     | 4,515   | 212                              | 6       | 218     |
| Textiles and articles of dress ..                              | 3,666                             | 6,555   | 10,221  | 97                               | 72      | 169     |
| Food, drink and tobacco ..                                     | 5,664                             | 1,009   | 6,673   | 1,889                            | 149     | 2,038   |
| Furniture, woodwork, etc. ..                                   | 1,986                             | 92      | 2,078   | 166                              | 2       | 168     |
| Other Factories, including heat, light and power ..            | 7,421                             | 946     | 8,367   | 454                              | 7       | 461     |
| Building and Construction ..                                   | 2,944                             | -       | 2,944   | 586                              | -       | 586     |
| Transport and Communication ..                                 | 2,102                             | 36      | 2,138   | 577                              | 9       | 586     |
| Commerce and Finance -   |                                   |         |         |                                  |         |         |
| Wholesale and retail trade ..                                  | 2,797                             | 254     | 3,051   | 901                              | 38      | 939     |
| Finance and Property ..  | 152                               | 11      | 163     | 51                               | 3       | 54      |
| Public Administration and Professional ..                      | 1,815                             | 83      | 1,898   | 697                              | 36      | 733     |
| Personal and Domestic Service ..                               | 1,586                             | 763     | 2,349   | 413                              | 74      | 487     |
| Other ..   | 343                               | 28      | 371     | 155                              | 15      | 170     |
| Total:   | 63,622                            | 12,212  | 75,834  | 8,451                            | 438     | 8,889   |

The States with the largest numbers of males in receipt of unemployment benefit at 30th June, 1946 in the principal industrial groups were:-

Food, etc., factories. (Commonwealth 1,889 males) - Queensland 1,590 (Rockhampton 896, Brisbane 298 - mainly meatworks), Western Australia 106 (Perth 77).

Founding, engineering, etc. (1,059) - New South Wales 427 (Newcastle 141, Lambton 76), Western Australia 309 (Perth 270).

Agriculture, pastoral, etc. (924) - Queensland 537 (Mackay 176, Cairns 98 - mainly sugar growing and sheep grazing), New South Wales 195 (Orange 57, Broken Hill 48).

Wholesale and retail trade (901) - Queensland 345 (Brisbane 176, Rockhampton 45), Western Australia 264 (Perth 205).

Public administration and professional. (697)

- (a) Civilian employees of Allied Government forces (334) - Queensland 231 (Brisbane 191), New South Wales 49.
- (b) Local Government administration (147) - Queensland 83.
- (c) Other public administration (122) - Queensland 50.
- (d) Health, hospitals, etc. (96) - Queensland 34.

Building and Construction (586)

(a) Construction, etc. of buildings (308) - Queensland 147 (Brisbane 53), Western Australia 64, New South Wales 62.  
 (b) Construction, etc. of roads, railways, earthworks, etc. (278) - Queensland 152, New South Wales 52.

Transport (577)

(a) Road Transport (172) - Queensland 72 (Brisbane 53).  
 (b) Loading and discharging vessels (168) - Queensland 126 (Rockhampton 54, Brisbane 44).  
 (c) Rail and Air Transport (100) - Queensland 42.  
 (d) Shipping (92) - Queensland 49.

(iv) Metropolitan and Other. Unemployment Benefits granted during the year ended 30th June, 1946 and those current at 30th June, 1946 are dissected into "Metropolitan" and "Other" districts (based on the usual place of residence of the beneficiary) in the following table:-

DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFICIARIES BETWEEN METROPOLITAN AND OTHER DISTRICTS (a) - STATES

| State              | Claims admitted during 1945-46 |              |               |              | On benefit at 30th June, 1946 |            |              |            |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
|                    | Metropolitan                   |              | Other         |              | Metropolitan                  |            | Other        |            |
|                    | Males                          | Females      | Males         | Females      | Males                         | Females    | Males        | Females    |
| New South Wales    | 26,445                         | 7,604        | 12,006        | 2,565        | 469                           | 26         | 1,068        | 102        |
| Victoria ..        | 1,206                          | 41           | 1,343         | 20           | 206                           | 9          | 386          | 9          |
| Queensland ..      | 2,246                          | 21           | 7,121         | 335          | 1,259                         | 12         | 2,767        | 185        |
| South Australia .. | 8,810                          | 1,435        | 610           | 50           | 385                           | 6          | 57           | 1          |
| Western Australia  | 2,927                          | 117          | 604           | 19           | 1,570                         | 78         | 198          | 8          |
| Tasmania ..        | 217                            | 1            | 87            | 4            | 64                            | 1          | 22           | 1          |
| <b>Total:</b>      | <b>41,851</b>                  | <b>9,219</b> | <b>21,771</b> | <b>2,993</b> | <b>3,953</b>                  | <b>132</b> | <b>4,498</b> | <b>306</b> |

(a) Metropolitan comprises the regions administered from Capital city and Suburban district offices of the Department of Social Services. In South Australia Port Adelaide and in Western Australia Fremantle and Midland Junction are included in Metropolitan. In New South Wales Liverpool is included in "Other".

8. SICKNESS - CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING YEAR AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF YEAR

(i) Nature of Sickness. The principal types of sickness, as stated on medical certificates, etc., of those admitted to Sickness Benefit during the year ended June, 1946 and of those who were in receipt of Sickness Benefit at 30th June, 1946 are indicated in the next table:-

NATURE OF SICKNESS - CLAIMS ADMITTED TO BENEFIT DURING 1945-46 AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 : AUSTRALIA

| Nature of Sickness  | Claims admitted during 1945-46 |              |               | On benefit at 30th June, 1946 |              |              |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | Males                          | Females      | Persons       | Males                         | Females      | Persons      |
| Infective and Parasitic Diseases                                  | 2,257                          | 490          | 2,747         | 381                           | 110          | 491          |
| Cancer ..   | 250                            | 28           | 278           | 61                            | 8            | 69           |
| Other Tumours ..  | 263                            | 182          | 445           | 41                            | 37           | 78           |
| Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition and Vitamin-Deficiency Diseases | 1,986                          | 464          | 2,450         | 496                           | 138          | 634          |
| Diseases of -   |                                |              |               |                               |              |              |
| Blood and Blood-forming organs                                    | 201                            | 169          | 370           | 51                            | 38           | 89           |
| Nervous System and Sense Organs                                   | 2,881                          | 886          | 3,767         | 571                           | 199          | 770          |
| Circulatory System ..   | 2,959                          | 270          | 3,229         | 787                           | 78           | 865          |
| Respiratory System ..   | 3,710                          | 491          | 4,201         | 645                           | 106          | 751          |
| Digestive System ..   | 6,978                          | 1,319        | 8,297         | 1,018                         | 183          | 1,201        |
| Genito-Urinary System ..  | 1,343                          | 431          | 1,774         | 280                           | 79           | 359          |
| Pregnancy, Childbirth, etc. ..                                    | -                              | 353          | 353           | -                             | 121          | 121          |
| Skin and Cellular Tissue ..                                       | 2,010                          | 309          | 2,319         | 303                           | 46           | 349          |
| Bones and Organs of Movement                                      | 925                            | 149          | 1,074         | 170                           | 26           | 196          |
| Other Diseases (including Ill-Defined Conditions) ..              | 549                            | 220          | 769           | 96                            | 46           | 142          |
| Injuries and Acute Poisoning -                                    |                                |              |               |                               |              |              |
| Fractures ..  | 2,707                          | 245          | 2,952         | 732                           | 70           | 802          |
| Other Injuries, etc. ..   | 2,554                          | 251          | 2,805         | 421                           | 57           | 478          |
| Operations (original disability not stated ..                     | 296                            | 182          | 478           | 37                            | 25           | 62           |
| Other ..  | 105                            | 32           | 137           | 37                            | 10           | 47           |
| <b>Total:</b>   | <b>31,974</b>                  | <b>6,471</b> | <b>38,445</b> | <b>6,127</b>                  | <b>1,377</b> | <b>7,504</b> |

An analysis of the 38,445 sickness benefits admitted during the year ended 1946 reveals the most prevalent diseases, etc. included in each of the main types as follows:-

Infective and parasitic diseases - influenza (726 males, 88 females), tuberculosis (133);

Rheumatism, etc. - acute rheumatic fever (277, 109), chronic rheumatism and other rheumatic diseases (1,144, 153), ill-defined rheumatism (254, 41);

Diseases of the nervous system, etc. - mental disorders and deficiency (1,193, 625), neuritis (79), diseases of the organs of vision (426, 44);

Diseases of the circulatory system - diseases of the myocardium (530, 25), diseases of the coronary arteries and angina pectoris (438, 13), other and unspecified heart diseases (791, 182), varicos (539, 42), idiopathic high blood pressure (322, 55);

Diseases of the respiratory system - bronchitis (1,097, 123), pneumonia and pleurisy (1,464, 182), asthma (390, 50), sinusitis (224, 34);

Diseases of the digestive system - appendicitis (2,085, 746), hernia (1,106, 32), ulcer of stomach (899, 40), ulcer of duodenum (717, 25), diseases of pharynx and tonsils (548, 182);

Diseases of the genito-urinary system - diseases of the kidneys and ureters (836, 184); Diseases of the female genital organs, not specified as venereal (-, 229);

Fractures - of the lower limbs (1,087, 121), of the upper limbs (870, 77);

Other injuries - open wounds, perforations and lacerations (599, 43), sprains and strains (48), head injuries (278, 29).

(ii) Age. In the following table the sickness beneficiaries are distributed according to age groups:-

GROUPED AGE - SICKNESS CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING 1945-46 AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 : AUSTRALIA

| Grouped Age (as at 31st Dec. 1945) | Claims admitted during 1945-46 |         |         | On benefit at 30th June, 1946 |         |         |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                    | Males                          | Females | Persons | Males                         | Females | Persons |
| 16-19 years                        | 2,504                          | 1,925   | 4,429   | 435                           | 359     | 794     |
| 20-24 "                            | 2,287                          | 1,625   | 3,912   | 409                           | 313     | 722     |
| 25-29 "                            | 2,929                          | 670     | 3,599   | 466                           | 118     | 584     |
| 30-34 "                            | 3,475                          | 496     | 3,971   | 564                           | 132     | 696     |
| 35-39 "                            | 3,690                          | 429     | 4,119   | 595                           | 113     | 708     |
| 40-44 "                            | 3,623                          | 401     | 4,024   | 663                           | 107     | 770     |
| 45-49 "                            | 3,572                          | 413     | 3,985   | 694                           | 107     | 801     |
| 50-54 "                            | 3,447                          | 318     | 3,765   | 741                           | 79      | 820     |
| 55-59 "                            | 3,779                          | 194     | 3,973   | 938                           | 49      | 987     |
| 60-64 "                            | 2,668                          | -       | 2,668   | 622                           | -       | 622     |
| Total:                             | 31,974                         | 6,471   | 38,445  | 6,127                         | 1,377   | 7,504   |

(iii) Incidence of Sickness according to age. The following table analyses incidence of male admissions to sickness benefit during the year ended June, 1946 in main types of sickness according to specified age groups:-

INCIDENCE OF MAIN TYPES OF SICKNESS IN SPECIFIED AGE GROUPS - MALES ADMITTED TO SICKNESS BENEFIT DURING 1945-46 - AUSTRALIA

| Nature of Sickness                         | 16-29 years | 30-44 years | 45-64 years | Total |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
|  |             |             |             |       |
| Infectious and Parasitic Diseases ..       | 27          | 39          | 34          | 100   |
| Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition, etc. .. | 17          | 33          | 50          | 100   |
| Diseases of -                              |             |             |             |       |
| Nervous System and Sense Organs ..         | 19          | 38          | 43          | 100   |
| Circulatory System ..                      | 7           | 22          | 71          | 100   |
| Respiratory System ..                      | 17          | 32          | 51          | 100   |
| Digestive System ..                        | 28          | 37          | 35          | 100   |
| Fractures ..                               | 44          | 30          | 26          | 100   |
| Other Injuries ..                          | 38          | 35          | 27          | 100   |
| Total:                                     | 24          | 34          | 42          | 100   |

The effect of age on certain types of disease is clearly indicated in the preceding table. Diseases of the circulatory system (heart diseases, etc.) are shown to be essentially diseases of advancing years. In this category 71 per cent. of the males were 45 years of age and over. Rheumatism (other than acute rheumatic fever) and diseases of the respiratory system also reveal the same tendency but to a lesser degree. Diseases of the digestive system are more evenly distributed throughout the different age groups. Injuries are more prevalent in the lower age groups due in part to the greater activity of youth. Most of the injuries included are non-occupational as occupational injuries are generally covered by compensation and therefore do not usually come within the ambit of the Act.

Owing to the rapid decline in numbers of females in employment in the higher age groups the influence of age on the different types of diseases is not evident from a similar consideration of females granted sickness benefit. This decline explains in part the relatively small number of heart diseases amongst female beneficiaries, the other factor being that these diseases are less prevalent amongst females generally.

(iv) Industrial Groups. The distribution, according to main industrial groups, of those admitted to sickness benefit during the year and those on benefit at 30th June, 1946 is shown in the next table:-

INDUSTRIAL GROUPS : SICKNESS CLAIMS ADMITTED DURING 1945-46  
AND PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT 30TH JUNE, 1946 : AUSTRALIA

| Industrial Group   | Claims admitted<br>during 1945-46 |         |         | On benefit at<br>30th June, 1946 |         |         |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
|  | Males                             | Females | Persons | Males                            | Females | Persons |
| Agriculture, Pastoral and Dairying                             | 2,212                             | 28      | 2,250   | 487                              | 14      | 501     |
| Other Primary Production                                       | 612                               | 2       | 614     | 117                              | 1       | 118     |
| Coal Mining  | 1,406                             | 4       | 1,410   | 264                              | -       | 264     |
| Other Mining and Quarrying                                     | 543                               | 1       | 544     | 117                              | -       | 117     |
| Factories and Industrial -                                     |                                   |         |         |                                  |         |         |
| Founding, engineering, metal working<br>including shipbuilding | 6,408                             | 355     | 6,763   | 1,096                            | 54      | 1,150   |
| Vehicles, including aircraft                                   | 1,675                             | 82      | 1,757   | 259                              | 9       | 268     |
| Textiles and articles of dress                                 | 1,270                             | 1,445   | 2,715   | 228                              | 256     | 484     |
| Food, drink and tobacco  | 2,408                             | 546     | 2,954   | 421                              | 97      | 518     |
| Furniture, woodworking, etc.                                   | 1,258                             | 39      | 1,297   | 218                              | 9       | 227     |
| Other Factories, including heat,<br>light and power            | 2,855                             | 394     | 3,249   | 499                              | 87      | 586     |
| Building and Construction                                      | 2,980                             | 4       | 2,984   | 586                              | 1       | 587     |
| Transport and Communication                                    | 2,884                             | 200     | 3,084   | 598                              | 47      | 645     |
| Commerce and Finance -   |                                   |         |         |                                  |         |         |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                     | 2,569                             | 1,001   | 3,570   | 546                              | 203     | 749     |
| Finance and Property   | 134                               | 75      | 209     | 37                               | 14      | 51      |
| Public Administration and Professional                         | 1,515                             | 909     | 2,424   | 344                              | 241     | 585     |
| Personal and Domestic Service                                  | 1,120                             | 1,360   | 2,480   | 280                              | 341     | 621     |
| Other  | 125                               | 16      | 141     | 30                               | 3       | 33      |
| Total:   | 31,974                            | 6,471   | 38,445  | 6,127                            | 1,377   | 7,504   |

(v) Metropolitan and Other. Sickness Benefits granted during the year ended June, 1946 and those current at 30th June, 1946 are dissected into "Metropolitan" and "Other" districts (based on the usual place of residence of the beneficiary) in the following table:-

DISTRIBUTION OF SICKNESS BENEFICIARIES BETWEEN METROPOLITAN  
AND OTHER DISTRICTS (a) : STATES

| State                | Claims admitted during 1945-46 |         |        |         | On benefit at 30th June, 1946 |         |       |         |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|
|                      | Metropolitan                   |         | Other  |         | Metropolitan                  |         | Other |         |
|                      | Males                          | Females | Males  | Females | Males                         | Females | Males | Females |
| New South Wales ..   | 6,047                          | 1,645   | 5,618  | 763     | 1,142                         | 319     | 1,145 | 167     |
| Victoria ..          | 5,169                          | 1,250   | 2,818  | 591     | 959                           | 296     | 566   | 128     |
| Queensland ..        | 1,931                          | 417     | 2,637  | 338     | 39                            | 95      | 513   | 70      |
| South Australia ..   | 2,312                          | 392     | 1,170  | 177     | 490                           | 88      | 206   | 21      |
| Western Australia .. | 1,571                          | 444     | 1,173  | 179     | 288                           | 108     | 169   | 29      |
| Tasmania ..          | 618                            | 109     | 910    | 166     | 106                           | 25      | 150   | 31      |
| Total:               | 17,648                         | 4,257   | 14,326 | 2,214   | 3,378                         | 931     | 2,749 | 446     |

a) Metropolitan comprises the regions administered from Capital City and suburban district offices of the Department of Social Services. In South Australia, Port Adelaide and in Western Australia, Midland Junction are included in Metropolitan. In New South Wales Liverpool is included in "Other".

ROLAND WILSON

COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN